

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 04276 131019 Z

10

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-19 GAC-01 AID-20 RSR-01 /123 W  
----- 060596

P 130941 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4472 PRIORITY 4472

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MANILA 4276

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: RP, MASS, PINS

SUBJECT: PRESS QUERY AT DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING REGARDING GOP  
REQUEST FOR ARMS

1. EMBASSY NOTES QUESTION RAISED DURING APR 12 DEPARTMENT  
PRESS BRIEFING ASKING IF THERE WERE " REQUEST FROM  
PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT FOR ARMS TO HELP COPE WITH THE  
DIFFICULTIES WITH THE MUSLIMS." DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN  
INDICATED HE WOULD " CHECK" ON THIS MATTER.

2. EMBASSY BELIEVES IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE IF THIS  
QUESTION WERE NOT PURSUED TO EITHER " YES" OR " NO" ANSWER. HOW-  
EVER, SHOULD QUERY PERSIST AND IF SPOKESMAN HAS NOT ALREADY  
PROVIDED REPLY TO THIS QUESTION, EMBASSY SUGGESTS FOLLOWING  
LINE TO BE TAKEN: QUOTE.

THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT, AT VARIOUS LEVELS HAS  
DURING RECENT MONTHS MADE A NUMBER OF REQUESTS  
FOR EXPEDITED DELIVERY OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND  
SUPPLIES UNDER OUR MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.  
BECAUSE OF THE HEAVY DEMANDS PLACED ON US SOURCES  
AND LINES OF SUPPLY DURING THE VIET- NAM CONFLICT,  
A CONSIDERABLE BACKLOG DEVELOPED IN THE DELIVERY  
TO THE PHILIPPINES OF SUCH EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES,  
WHICH WERE PROGRAMMED AND FUNDED UNDER MAP FOR  
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PAGE 02 MANILA 04276 131019 Z

FY 1973 AND PRIOR YEARS. FOLLOWING THE CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT IN VIET- NAM, WE HAVE BEEN SEEKING TO ACCELERATE THE DELIVERY OF THOSE ITEMS WHICH HAVE BEEN IN THE PIPELINE FOR QUITE SOME TIME. END QUOTE.

3. FYI. PRESS REPORTS WHICH THE EMBASSY HAS SEEN ( SUCH AS THOSE WRITTEN BY STERBA, NEW YORK TIMES; FOISIE, LOS ANGELES TIMES; AIKMAN, TIME; AND CLIFTON, NEWSWEEK) HAVE SO FAR HANDLED IN A FAVORABLE MANNER THE QUESTION OF POSSIBLE US MILITARY AID IN CONTEXT OF MUSLIM INSURRECTION.

BYROADE

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 APR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973MANILA04276  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** n/a  
**Errors:** n/a  
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**Subject:** PRESS QUERY AT DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING REGARDING GOP REQUEST FOR ARMS  
**TAGS:** MASS, PINS, RP  
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**SECSTATE WASHDC**  
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